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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Gerold MAHLER et al.  
Serial No. : Not yet known (U.S. National Stage of PCT/DE97/02966  
filed December 19, 1997)  
Filed : Concurrently herewith  
For : METHOD FOR STOCKING AND PRESERVING GREEN ROUND  
WOOD AND SAWN TIMBER

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Preliminary to examination, please amend this application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Page 2, line 5, delete "AFZ 19/1992" and substitute therefor Mahler, G.:

Konservierung von Holz mit Schutzgas (Preservation of Wood Using

Protective Gas), AFZ 47 (1992) 19;

line 22, after "from" insert --respiratory processes of wood cells that are still  
alive--; —

line 23, change "the" to --, and-- and delete ", as well as respiratory processes  
of wood cells still alive";

after line 25, insert the following as a new paragraph,

The airtight cover ensures that, on the one hand, no oxygen can enter from